

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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53

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /031 W

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O 031441Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4081

AMEMBASSY AMMAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 5643

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, JO, IS

SUBJ: ISRAELI AIRCRAFT OVER AMMAN

REF: TEL AVIV 4063

1. I HAD OCCASION TO SPEAK TO GAZIT (DIRGEN PM' OFFICE) ON OTHER SUBJECT LATE THIS AFTERNOON AND, IN ABSENCE PROMISED CALL FROM KIDRON, RAISED AIRPLANE INCIDENT WITH HIM. I NOTED THAT REGARDLESS OF WHATEVER INTERNAL DIFFICULTIES GOI MIGHT BE HAVING IN RESPONDING TO OUR REQUEST FOR INFO, CONTINUED SILENCE ON PART OF ISRAELIS WOULD ONLY SERVE CONFIRM WORST JORDANIAN SUSPICIONS RE GOI MOTIVES IN THIS MATTER. WE COULD NOT SEE HOW THIS WAS IN ANYONE'S INTEREST.

2. GAZIT READILY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT PM'S OFFICE HAD BEEN FULLY BRIEFED BY KIDRON RE OUR CONVERSATIONS. HE THEN ACKNOWLEDGED ISRAELI AIRCRAFT INVOLVED AND ASKED THAT I REPORT FOLLOWING TO "WASHINGTON": GOI DECIDED TO FLY RECONAISSANCE OVER WEST BANK AS RESULT OF RECENT TERRORIST INCIDENTS. SONIC BOOMS NEAR AMMAN WERE "UNFORTUNATE COINCIDENCES", WERE NOT RPT NOT RESULT OF ORDERS AND HENCE CERTAINLY NOT INTENDED AS "SIGNAL" OF ANY KIND TO GOJ. IN FACT, GOI RECOGNIZED JORDANIANS MAKING EFFORTS TO CONTROL TERRORISTS (AT LEAST AT HIGHEST LEVELS - HE ALLUDED TO POSSIBLE "SLIPPAGE" AT LOWER LEVELS OF GOJ RE EFFORTS) AND WELCOMED LATEST INFO RE STEPPED UP JORDANIAN EFFORTS IN THIS RESPECT.

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3. COMMENT: THIS IS PROBABLY AS CLOSE TO AN APOLOGY FOR SOME BOOM BLUNDER AS WE ARE LIKELY TO GET FROM ISRAELIS. THERE WAS NO SUGGESTION OF REGRET RE FLYING RECON-AISSANCE OVER WEST BANK. WE ASSUME, HOWEVER, THAT ANY FUTURE FLIGHTS WOULD BE LESS PROVOCATIVE IN NATURE.

4. IF AMMAN THINKS IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO PASS RELEVANT SECTION OF PARA 2 TO GOJ, WE HAVE NO RPT NO OBJECTION.
VELIOTES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Draft Date: 03 OCT 1974
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
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